

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1533 without my signature.

The California School Paraprofessional Teacher Training Program serves as a valuable teacher pipeline to bring qualified and committed teachers into our classrooms. However, there does appear to be a need to make some programmatic changes in order to ensure that the program is both effective and efficient and results in the highest possible number of participating teachers receiving their teaching credential.

To that end, I find many of the changes proposed in this bill to be meritorious. However, this bill's specific language leaves too much discretion to the districts and the Commission on Teacher Credentialing which could drive cost pressures and may increase the incidence of non-completers. Further, this bill's changes to the participant selection process, while moving in the right direction, do not go far enough to ensure the highest rate of completion.

Therefore, I am unable to sign this bill, but my Administration will work with the author next year on a bill that would address these concerns and bring about the needed programmatic changes to ensure the continued success of this valuable teacher pipeline.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this measure.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger